



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Falls Church City Gang Intervention & Prevention Committee Resources Available Online

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – The City of Falls Church Gang Intervention and Prevention Committee (GIPC) has published an informative gang prevention and awareness resource online at www.fallschurchva.gov. The Web pages highlight the GIPC's purpose and goals, and serve as educational tools for identifying gang activity, understanding how gangs operate, and combating illegal gang activity.

The GIPC was formed in January 2005 as a collaborative effort between key public partners (public schools, human services, recreation and parks, court services, and law enforcement) to initiate community attention to gang activity. The Committee's mission centers on advising and promoting the City's coordinated gang prevention measures.

The GIPC advises the City Manager and School Superintendent on a range of policy, legislative, and programmatic issues related to the prevention and suppression of gangs. The Committee promotes a clear understanding of current gang laws, resources, and issues and works to educate and involve the community in a collective response to the prevention and intervention of gangs.

Committee members meet regularly to address emerging issues and develop strategies to identify and prioritize needed resources (e.g. federal/foundation grants, individual/corporate contributions, and local tax funding) available to support the work and recommendations put forth by the Committee.

The GIPC actively participates in gang prevention activities at the local, regional, and state levels and ensures the Committee's efforts are well coordinated with these initiatives.

The Committee is chaired by Cindy Mester, Falls Church Community Services General Manager, and includes additional representatives from the City's Police Department, Public Schools, Community Services Department, Court Services Unit, Recreation & Parks Division, Housing & Human Services Division, the City Attorney, and the Arlington County Gang Task Force.

For more information, please call 703-248-5230 or visit www.fallschurchva.gov/government/publicSafety/PoliceDepartment/GIPC.html.

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